

E-CONNECTOR



BULLETIN BOARD

Notes and Notices from Colorado Parents of Blind Children (CO-POBC)



Dear Reader:

Please contact us if you have an announcement you would like to tack up on our bulletin board, or if you would like to add a friend or family member to the e-mail list. Direct all communications to:

copobc.newsletter@gmail.com,
attention Julie Hunter, editor.



Parents of Blind Children will be meeting on Saturday, October 11 at ten o'clock a.m. at the Colorado Center for the Blind. Come join us! Meet other parents!



COOKING UP A "BEWITCHING" NFB STATE CONVENTION

Halloween arrives at the end of October and this year it coincides with the NFB of Colorado State Convention! A weekend of "ghoulish" good times is in store.

The Convention is being held Thursday, October 30th through Sunday morning, November 2nd at the Marriott Denver South at Park Meadows, 10345 Park Meadows Dr. Lone Tree, CO 80124. Here is a brief run-down of the exciting events planned.

Thursday, October 30th:

5:30-9:00 p.m. "Twist and Shout Beatle Mania" Show. A fundraising event featuring The Fab 4 Beatles tribute band and a fascinating inside look at the Beatles early career from Art Schreiber, one of only two U.S. reporters on the Beatles maiden tour of the U.S in 1964. On this 50th Anniversary of the tour, Schreiber will share stories of how Paul McCartney saved his career, and his evenings playing Monopoly with John Lennon and George Harrison. See pictures and hear exclusive interviews. Hors d'oeuvres and cash bar. Tickets are \$50 in advance or \$60 at the door...it's a FUNdraiser!

Friday, October 31th: There will be a general convention session on Friday morning beginning at 10:00 a.m. A luncheon on Friday will be followed by afternoon workshops. From 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. parents and youth can join

representatives from Denver Karate in an interactive program regarding self defense. Friday evening will be celebrated with a Halloween carnival party. Hors d'oeuvres reception, costume contest, karaoke contest, and more.

Saturday, November 1st: A jam-packed general session in the morning will be followed by box lunches and afternoon workshops. Beginning at 2:00 p.m. parents will meet to hear a panel of experts in the field of special education speak about how blind and visually impaired kids can best achieve high level writing and math skills. Interactive breakout sessions will offer hands-on fun challenges. The afternoon will end with a meeting of the Colorado Parents of Blind Children division. Saturday evening will include a banquet and keynote speech by national NFB representative, James Brown of Tennessee.

Sunday, November 2nd: Sunday morning will again bring the convention as a whole together for the NFB of Colorado Board Meeting. POBC parents are encouraged to attend and participate, as we are all part of the larger organization and we need to understand how the NFB works on our behalf. The convention will end around noon on Sunday.

For information on convention registration and hotel rates go to www.nfbco.org

*Please consider this notice that the Colorado Parents of Blind Children will be holding elections of Officers and Board Members on Saturday, November 1, 2014 at a meeting convening at 4:00 p.m. All offices are voted on annually and dues paying members are eligible to run for office and vote. Dues of \$5.00 will be collected at the door prior to the meeting.



CONVENTION CHILDCARE

State Convention Childcare organizer, Michelle Chacon, is notifying those who are bringing young children to the convention that the hours for childcare this year will be as follows:

Friday: Childcare will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Parents must provide meals for their children.

Saturday: Childcare will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Parents must provide lunch for their children. Childcare will re-open at 6:30 p.m. and close at 10:00 p.m. NFBCO will order pizza for the

children in attendance. Sunday: Childcare will be open from 8:45 a.m. to Noon.



FAST SATURDAY

Fun Activities and Skills Training (FAST) for October:

SATURDAY, OCT. 11, 2014
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

ASTRONOMY DAY

Astronomy in Action with atmospheric tents to simulate various aspects of our sky. Directed by John Ristvey from the National Center for Atmospheric Research and Ben Wentworth, retired CSDB science teacher

Colorado Center for the Blind
2233 W. Shepperd
Littleton, CO 80120

.Lunch will be provided. RSVP by October 8 to:

Brent Batron:
bbatron@cocenter.org or
303-778-1130, ext. 222

[\[Colorado Parents of Blind Children will meet at 10:00 a.m. this morning. Come join us for coffee and conversation!\]](#)

NOVEMBER FAST: Shark dissection!! November 14

EVERY SATURDAY 1:00-4:00 p.m.: Drop-in Goalball games for beginners on up.



KAYAKING

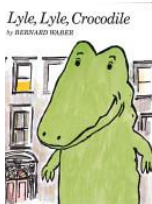
Blind athlete and adventurer, Erik Weihenmayer, recently accomplished another goal... guiding his own kayak through the turbulent rapids of the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon. See how a totally blind man accomplished this feat by [clicking here](#).

The National Sports Center for the Disabled gives lessons in kayaking at the Carmody Recreation Center in Lakewood, Colorado. For information call 303-316-1518.



CHILDREN'S THEATER

The Arvada Center for the Arts will present "Lyle the Crocodile" from October 16 to December 28, 2014. The play will be audio described on Tuesday, November 4th. The performances are 10:00 a.m. and again at noon. Tickets cost \$8 and are available by calling 720-898-7240. The Arvada Center is located at 6901 Wadsworth Blvd., Arvada, CO



TRANSITION TO COLLEGE INFORMATION FOR HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS AND SENIORS

The Access Center and Testing Services (ACTS) at Metropolitan State University of Denver invites you to the upcoming STEP (Supportive Transition Educational Program) event. Learn about academic accommodations for students with disabilities, disability rights in the college environment and more. The dates this fall will be **Friday, October 10th and Friday, October 17th from 8:30-12:30pm**. Due to the small classroom size and space, the event will be limited to 60 people per date, and registration is on a first come first serve basis. **The RSVP date for both dates will be Friday, October 3rd.** Any RSVPs received after this date will be advised to schedule a private meeting with Outreach Coordinator, Melissa Cermak, mcermak@msudenver.edu or 303-556-8387.

You can access and complete the registration form by [clicking here](#).

DON'T FORGET: October 15 is "White Cane Safety Day" and the month of October is designated as "Meet the Blind Month!"



INACCESSIBLE TECHNOLOGY LEAVES BLIND STUDENTS IN A BIND: THE TEACH ACT ADDRESSES THIS MAJOR EDUCATIONAL HURDLE

What is the TEACH Act? The "Technology, Education and Accessibility In College and Higher Education Act", was introduced in both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives in 2014, and the bills are currently in committee status.

If passed, what will it do? The TEACH Act will provide guidelines for manufacturers of educational technology and guidelines for institutions of higher education aimed at ensuring accessibility for all students, including those using screen reading software, voiceover and computer Braille devices.

Why is it necessary? Blind college students face setbacks, delays and stumbling blocks in their education because of inaccessible technology. The use of e-readers, Web content, mobile applications, and on line learning management systems is increasing and in many cases these technologies are not usable by blind and visually impaired students.

To learn more check out the new NFB [TEACH ACT Informational Video](#).